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PTO/SB/30 (10-01)  
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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

# REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Address to:  
Commissioner for Patents  
Box RCE  
Washington, DC 20231

Application Number	09/507,769
Filing Date	2/18/00
First Named Inventor	R. K. Passman
Art Unit	1774
Examiner Name	K. T. Nguyen
Attorney Docket Number	CS-20866

RCE/1774  
#9  
9/16/02  
Do

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

## 1. Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114

- a. ☐ Previously submitted
- i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR 1.116 previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_  
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_
- iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

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## 2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

## 3. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 16-2440
- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)
- ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

**WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.**

## SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Blake T. Biederman	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	34,124
Signature	<i>Blake T. Biederman</i>	Date	August 30, 2002

## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

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Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No.: 09/507,769

Group Art Unit: 1774

Inventor: Passman

Filed: February 18, 2000

Title: Coatings on Reinforced Composites Examiner: K.T. Nguyen

RESPONSE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of August 13, 2002, having a shortened statutory period set to expire November 13, 2002, kindly enter the attached RCE and consider the following remarks.

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration in view of the amendment and the following remarks.

The action rejects claims 1, 2 and 4 to 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hatch et al.'s U.S. Pat. No. 5,840,386.

The invention of Hatch et al provided a major advance to soft-type printing rolls. This invention utilizes a rigid metal sheet to improve wear resistance of the soft-type printing roll. The rigid metal sheet may receive an optional thermal spray layer to further improve the wear resistance of the printing roll--this is different than the subject claimed invention that applies the thermal spray coating to the second epoxy layer.

In particular, the Hatch patent teaches that it is advantageous to use a thermal spray-coated metal sleeve for these applications. Unlike Hatch et al., applicants' two polymer layer design operates without the benefit of a metal sleeve. Applicants claim a first polymer layer free of fibers and particulate, a second polymer layer containing particulate and a thermal spray layer coating the second polymer layer. Hatch et al.'s patent is related to a metal sleeve-containing design and does not disclose or suggest a first polymer layer free of fibers and particulate, a second polymer layer containing particulate or a thermal spray layer coating the second polymer layer. Therefore, since Hatch et al. 1)

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yes it does